

PRECEPT AND PRACTICE.

The Rev. Mr. Cruzan, in his sermon on gambling—which was an intelligent and eloquent discourse—after touching on the extent of the evil outside the church, recommended that Christian congregations take a bold stand in this matter, and do away with grab-boxes, fish ponds, etc., and all those gambling devices by which money is coaxed from the pocket of the visitor. This is consistency. The man who takes a ticket in a church raffle has no right to rail against the pool-box on a race-course. While practical Christianity purifies and holds a community together, hypocritical professions of its admirable precepts inculcate a general distrust of the faith. This idea the *Gazette* of last week clearly expresses when it says:

"Perhaps the most deplorable effect of hypocritical professions of religion is upon those who are led by them to mistake the profession for the true faith, to carry their hatred of cant to the extreme of becoming irreverent."

Irreverence is not easy to define. What to one may appear plain and sincere criticism, is to another irreverence. This is an age of criticism. There are no mysteries in these times; no creed, no philosophy, no theory, which trusts to the intelligence of the masses for existence is beyond the pale of criticism. Mr. Cruzan, the pastor of a prominent church, criticizes the practices of Christian Churches in permitting this petty gambling within their circle, and denounces it as a monstrous crime. Yet if a newspaper were to discuss this matter with the same freedom, it would be accused of irreverence.

We are earnest believers in practical Christianity. It is meet and proper that Christians should pray together, go regularly to church, and in every way inculcate religion and morality. But if a Christian should brawl, and drink and otherwise misbehave himself, we certainly would not attribute his shortcomings to the system, but to the inherent Satan in the individual. For example, if there should be a street fight, and a member of the church which inculcates peace and charity should yell to one of the combatants, "Go in and polish him off," or, "Now you have him, give him one in the eye," we would conclude that the teachings of Christianity were sadly wasted on that person. This would be no reproach to the church, but only a melancholy instance of how difficult it is to make precept and practice go hand-in-hand.

THE statement of the Minister of Finance, presented to the House last week, and which appears in our local columns this morning, is a gratifying evidence of the excellent result of His Majesty's timely message. The total proposed reduction of the estimates is \$912,415. The estimated revenue of the biennial period is \$2,336,870.42. Therefore only \$513,457 now remains to be actually provided for by the Loan Act. This is practical economy. If this principle of the Legislature extends through all branches of this community, the "hard times" will be tided over without any one feeling much the worse for this temporary check in the prosperity of these islands.

THERE are rumors abroad of another public meeting, but we are pleased to see the Opposition journals deprecate the idea. While nothing can be said against these public gatherings for an expression of opinion, we think it best that at this juncture they should be avoided. They tend to undue excitement, and violent utterances which accomplish nothing, and place one portion of the community in antagonism with the other. We are confident that ere long matters will be satisfactorily arranged without those agitation-creating appeals to public sentiment.

THE *S. F. Bulletin*, which its Honolulu namesake quotes in *extenso*, attributes the dull times here to the treaty. This is about as logical as the Coast Solomon usually is. Before drawing this deduction it should have proved that the decline in sugar rates was directly attributable to the treaty. As a matter of fact the San Francisco press is not particularly friendly to this part of the world. Of course the *Chronicle* has been subsidised to attack our sugar interests,

and it is barely possible that the *Bulletin* is putting in its claim for a portion of the same pie.

THE new banking bill presented by Mr. Isenberg yesterday, and recommended by the Chamber of Commerce, is in every respect an eminently sound document. It cannot fail to meet the general approbation of this community, as it was carefully framed by a portion of their representative business men, to the utter exclusion of all political bias. We congratulate the Committee on the intelligent result of their conference.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following:

"Will you kindly inform the sugar dealers of Honolulu that prices have declined of late; also the butchers who are so busy all the time, please say to them that cattle can now be purchased for \$8 per head less than a few months ago. With hard times at our door, and staring us in the face for the future, it does not seem right for a certain class of traders to keep prices up at top rates."

We entirely agree with our correspondent. The butchers should fall into line, and in view of the hard times now staring us in the face, be satisfied with smaller profits. Still, if our correspondent is correct, and cattle have so declined in value, a general lowering of rates would leave them more margin than they have enjoyed when stock was high. But the butcher is a hard man to reason with. He never confesses that he is making anything more than expenses in his business, and lays all the sins of high charges on the cattle dealer. The grocer may sometimes yield to the necessities of the hour, but the butcher is as tough as the tenderloin he sells to the customer unversed in the wiles of marketing.

WE, in common with every intelligent observer of passing events, recognize the absolute necessity of an important change in this Government. We have the best reason for knowing that it will come to pass, but we do not believe in proclaiming to the community that the country is virtually damned unless a dynamite cartridge is at once set down, and everyone connected with the Government is blown skyward. But we do not consider that it is the province of a newspaper to arbitrarily dictate wherein and how that change must be made. We have the most perfect confidence in those whose province it is to regulate these matters. We know that they are working for the common good, and to harmonize the antagonistic elements of this community. When the change is made the blatant office-seekers who attempt to conceal under the mask of a desire for the general welfare, their lust for place, will be sadly and sorely disappointed.

HIS MAJESTY the King must feel highly gratified at the number of intelligent counsellors the present political discussion has created. These earnest and patriotic gentlemen have a most affecting concern for His Majesty's welfare, and even include the royal digestion in their bill of items. Our mild and interesting contemporary, the *Bulletin*, has within the last few days assumed to itself the province of a Court Journal. It tells us where the King lurches, very improperly neglecting to state how he breakfasts, and if he has any especial fancy in salad dressings. If the *Bulletin* is desirous to add to the literature of these Islands, it should collect its articles of the past month of a certain class, entitle them "A Newspaper's attempt to Bulldoze a King," and publish them in pamphlet form, allowing a fair discount for cash.

THE *Dismal Bladder* published last Thursday the advertisement of the Oceanic Steamship Company, and magnanimously announced that it would not present its bill until the company could afford to pay for it. This is an unpleasant reflection upon the financial standing of the company, and comes with ill grace from our lugubrious contemporary, who has always had its love and affection. Possibly the day will come when the *Bladder*, weary and disgusted with the non-success of its efforts to save this country, may hope, in return for its graciousness, a free pass for the "plant" to a more appreciative climate.

THE printing world of London is much disturbed in London by the discovery of a new process which enables any number of copies to be taken of any book, even the oldest, without setting a line of type. A compound has been discovered which may be spread upon a page without in the slightest way injuring the paper, and which refuses to rest upon ink. It can be easily removed to a stone, and there becomes the matrix for stereotype, or can be used for printing from at once. Practical printers are experimenting to see whether they cannot save the cost of re-setting old editions, and, if certain practical difficulties are removed, there will be a change not only in the production of fac-similes of old books, but in the re-production of new ones. It will be no longer necessary to keep the type standing, as a proof will be as good as a stereotype plate.

MR. SPRECKELS, as we understand, claims that he can make or break Cabinets.—*Hawaiian*.

Mr. Spreckels claims nothing of the sort. He is simply working, in harmony with every other man who is interested in the welfare of these islands, for their prosperity, and is endeavoring with all his energies to see us safe over an inevitable business depression. Colonel Spreckels is the active and stalwart friend of Hawaiian interests, and his reputation cannot be affected by these ungenerous allusions. He was identified with the Hawaiian Kingdom years and years before the types, which now asperse his motives, were cast, or the writers who labor to place him in antagonism with this community dreamed of landing here to adjudicate between Colonel Spreckels and the commercial interests of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

VARIGNY'S "FOURTEEN YEARS IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS."

"In the month of August we received the treaty ratified by the Emperor, with orders to terminate without delay this long and troublesome negotiation. M. Perrin informed Mr. Wyllie that he was ready for the exchange of signatures. To this communication the Minister of Foreign Affairs replied that the King, in accordance with the Constitution of the Kingdom, would proceed to take the advice of the Privy Council. It was rather late to have to go through this formality; but the Hawaiian Government was, in fact, bound by the text of the Constitution.

"The Privy Council, an irresponsible body, nominated by the King on the advice of his Ministers, was ready to support the latter on all important questions. Nevertheless, strongly worked upon for some months past by the adversaries of the treaty, the members of the Privy Council—particularly the native members—showed a visible repugnance to the changes which its adoption would entail. The importance of these had been exaggerated to them, but the best of goodwill it had been difficult to demonstrate to them the advantages which would result to their own country. The Hawaiian negotiators, much embarrassed by their position, asked nothing better than to shelter themselves behind the vote of the Privy Council, and to get rid of their responsibility. In the eyes of the French Government, they had given proof of their goodwill, they were not answerable for the rest. Under such circumstances, the decision of the Privy Council was not doubtful. The reporter chosen, Mr. G. M. Robertson, a Judge of the Supreme Court—one of the strongest opponents of the treaty—presented his report, which recommended its rejection. After a discussion which lasted two days, this recommendation was adopted, with a modification which the few partisans of France caused to be introduced into it, which consisted in the insertion of an additional article in the treaty which interpreted the text of the treaty in a sense acceptable to the popular feeling, and took from it all the value which it had in the eyes of the French Government.

"M. Perrin was in consternation at this unexpected result. He had represented, in writing to Paris, that success was assured; not only had the success escaped him, but the adversaries of the treaty celebrated their success with a salvo 101 guns; and

the populace, excited for the moment by the leaders of the American party, saluted his windows with those significant groans with which political parties here, as in the United States, celebrate their triumphs. Nothing was omitted, even to the classic Charivari.

"It was necessary to keep up a good heart against fortune. M. Perrin pre-occupied above all things with the necessity of obtaining the signature of the King, declared himself ready to accept the treaty with the additional article, the latter *ad referendum* only—that is to say, reserving this point for the approval of his Government. Under these conditions the King affixed his signature, and the treaty, thus accepted, was once more returned to Paris for final examination.

"At the commencement of 1859 we received the reply of the Ministry to this communication. As it was easy to foresee, the French government rejected purely and simply the additional article held to the original text of the treaty, and considered the signature of the King as good and final for this text itself. Thus put in a position to yield, the Hawaiian Government gave way. They could not go a step further, and it did not enter into its designs to run the risks of a definite rupture with France.

"In fact, relations with the Government became each day more strained, and were complicated by questions of detail, insignificant in themselves, but which kept up a constant irritation between the representative of France and the principal members of the Government. The King thought he could put an end to this state of things by giving to M. Perrin and to France an evidence of his good will, and he made known to M. Perrin his desire to introduce a Frenchman into the councils of the Government, in order that our nationality should be represented there, and that its voice might there make itself heard. It was I whom the King had designated by name. M. Perrin received this overture with pleasure, and informed me of it, urging me strongly to accept it; he did not doubt that our Government would assent.

"Certainly this proposal was seducing. To exchange my modest post of Chancellor for a brilliant position, to have offered to me the opportunity to appease all dissensions, and, above all that, of supporting the ideas and views to which our attentive study of the country and its resources had led me—here was a strong temptation. But reflection quickly led me to other conclusions. I was too new for the country, too little known, and, moreover, without influence or authority. I confessed to myself that I still had much to do, much to learn in order to evolve from the chaos of contrary and confused impressions the clear and settled ideas to which instinct was leading me, but which I did not yet possess. Then it needed but a glance around to assure me that I had no one to rely upon, that I should either have but a short day, or have to become a mere nobody. I therefore decided to return, to the great astonishment of M. Perrin, who saw, with regret, an arrangement upset which his friendship made him desire for me, and his feelings as a diplomat for himself."

The event just narrated naturally led M. Varigny to continue his studies of the Hawaiians and their affairs with renewed ardor, to familiarize himself more thoroughly with the English language, to pursue a course of reading in political economy and to make the agricultural and commercial resources of the country the special object of study. Passing from his personal history, he next relates the following story of the King:

"Among the familiars of the palace, old comrades of the youth and pleasures of the King, was an Englishman, Nelson, who lived in intimacy with him, and accompanied him in the changes of residence rendered frequent by asthmatic troubles to which the King was subject. On August 3rd, 1859, the King, accompanied by the Queen and his suite, and his secretaries, amongst the number of whom was Nelson, paid a visit to Lahaina, on the island of Maui. The absolute want of occupation, suffering more persistent than usual, caused him to return to the habits of intemperance which, rare since his marriage, were for that very

reason all the more violent. On the 11th, after copious and prolonged libations, the King embarked in his yacht to return to Honolulu. When a few miles from the coast, night having fallen, he gave the order to put the vessel about, and returned to Lahaina, and went to the lodgings of Nelson, whom he called. The latter opened the door and fell, struck by a ball which the King fired straight at him."

[Varigny here explains the intrigue which is supposed to have caused the King's murderous anger against Nelson.]

"Drunkness more than passion had nerved the arm of Kamehameha IV, and his crime had scarcely been committed, when his nature, changeable and impressionable to excess, abandoned himself to all the violence of a remorse, which served to hasten his end. Nelson's wound was not mortal in itself, but his constitution, broken down by wildness of his youth, could not rally against it. He languished for some time and died.

"In the impetuosity of his regrets the King had but one thought—to return to Honolulu, abdicate in favor of his infant son, and consecrate the rest of his days to the expiation of his crime. In fact, he returned on the 30th and made his intention known to his Cabinet. The latter persuaded him to draw back from his resolution, but, agitated by sombre presentiments, he took immediate steps to have his son proclaimed heir to the throne. Then, falling back on the idea of his ancestor, Kamehameha I, he wrote to England to ask once more for the establishment of a branch of the Reformed English Church, and the dispatch of an Anglican Bishop and clergyman. His ardent nature could but ill accommodate itself to the ascetic forms of Methodist worship; brought up in the protestant faith, he could not bring himself to adopt catholicism. The Queen, herself an Anglican, ardently desired the establishment of a church with which she was in full sympathy. They both hoped to be able to confide to the bishop for whom they asked, the education of the young Prince of Hawaii. Kamehameha IV strengthened his request by the offer of land for the erection of a church, and an annual subscription large enough to defray a great part of the expenses of the new clergy. This request was well received in England and taken into serious consideration.

(To be continued.)

Captain Dutton's Report to the U. S. Geological Survey Department.

In a paper submitted by Captain C. E. Dutton to the Director of the U. S. Geological Survey, who publishes the same in his Annual Report for 1883 to the U. S. Government, appears the following high eulogy upon the Hawaiian Survey Department:

"I regret most deeply that I have been unable to procure a good map of the island of Hawaii—the largest of the Hawaiian group, and the theatre of the great living volcanoes. There is no such map in existence; but fortunately much progress has been made towards the construction of one which will no doubt rank high among first-class maps.

I am indebted to Professor W. D. Alexander, the Surveyor-General of the Hawaiian Kingdom, for excellent maps of Maui and Oahu, which have been reproduced for this memoir on one-fourth the original scale. The survey now in progress under Prof. Alexander, is an admirable one; in truth, a model in its way.

The circumstances which have led to it are worth reciting.

When the Sandwich Islands were discovered by Captain Cook, the people were by no means savages, but had a state of society so well organized as to be quite as much above savagery on the one hand as it was below civilization on the other. In truth, it is with no little surprise that the student finds this social condition to have been remarkably similar to that of Europe in the dark ages. The social system was almost exactly the feudal system.

The French and Saxons of the ninth and tenth centuries, no doubt, were greatly in advance of the primitive Hawaiians of the eighteenth century in respect to the arts; but it is difficult to understand in what respect their social organization was any